

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07

IO-10 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01

SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 NSC-05 /089 W

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R 141715Z AUG 75

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3122

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T USNATO 4352

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR

SUBJECT: MBFR: DATA STUDIES

REF: A. STATE 181816

B. USNATO 3356 DTG 201430Z JUN 75

C. USNATO 3958 DTG 281635Z JUL 75

1. US REP RAISED POINTS CONTAINED IN REF A WITH THE CHAIRMAN OF THE WORKING GROUP (SMITH) FOLLOWING THE WG MEETING ON AUGUST 12. SMITH THOUGHT THE US VIEWS WERE VALID, BUT NONETHELESS BELIEVED THERE ARE STRONGER ARGUMENTS FOR MAINTAINING THE LIST OF FIVE BASIC DOCUMENTS (REF B) FOR THE TIME BEING.

2. CHAIRMAN SMITH AGREED WITH THE POINT IN REF A THAT THE "DATA ON NATO AND WP FORCES" (ALSO KNOWN AS THE "NATO BLUE BOOK") AND "MAJOR NATO AND WARSAW PACT GROUND AND AIR FORCE COMBAT UNITS AVAILABILITY STATUS" DOCUMENTS ARE NOT PURELY MBFR RELATED IN THAT BOTH ALSO COVER FORCES OUTSIDE THE NGA. HE POINTED OUT, HOWEVER, THAT THESE ARE DESCRIBED IN REF B BASICLY AS BACK-SECRET

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GROUND SOURCES FROM WHICH DATA CAN BE EXTRACTED FOR USE IN MBFR STUDIES. WHILE THE MCM-86 AND THE N-30 COMPANION VOLUME (NOW AC/276(MBFR DATA)-WP(75)4) CAN BE CONSIDERED AS THE MOST RELEVANT SOURCE DOCUMENTS, THE LATTER IS A NEW PRODUCT AND THE ALLIES

DO NOT YET HAVE SUFFICIENT EXPERIENCE WITH IT AND WILL NOT WANT TO RELY ON JUST THESE TWO DOCUMENTS EXCLUSIVELY. SMITH THEREFORE BELIEVES THAT THE EARLIER TWO STUDIES SHOULD BE RETAINED AS BACKGROUND SOURCES UNTIL IT IS CLEAR TO ALL THAT THE MCM-86 AND N-30 DOCUMENTS WILL BE SUFFICIENT.

3. SMITH ACCEPTED THE US POINT THAT THE "REVISED ASSESSMENT OF MANPOWER STRENGTH FOR NATO AND WP FORCES IN THE NGA" IS REDUNDANT. HOWEVER, SINCE IT COMBINES BOTH WP AND NATO STRENGTHS INTO ONE SHORT DOCUMENT (THE LATEST VERSION AWAITING APPROVAL IS ONLY THREE PAGES), SMITH THINKS IT IS MUCH EASIER TO USE FOR QUICK REFERENCE AND CAN ALSO BE UPDATED WITHOUT REVISING THE LARGER MCM-86 AND N-30 VOLUMES.

4. CHAIRMAN SMITH BELIEVED IT WOULD BE A TACTICAL ERROR TO PRESENT THE US VIEWS IN REF A AT THIS TIME. ALL THE ALLIES AGREED TO THE BASIC LIST IN REF B IN JUNE, PENDING ONLY THE CONCURRENCE OF THE US. TO RE-OPEN THE QUESTION NOW MIGHT SLOW DOWN CONSIDERATION OF MORE IMPORTANT STUDIES CURRENTLY ON THE WG AGENDA, E.G. THE STUDIES ON SUB-CEILINGS AND FORCE DEFINITIONS. HE RECOMMENDED THAT IF POSSIBLE, THE US AGREE TO THE LIST IN REF B FOR THE TIME BEING AND DEFER ATTEMPTS TO LIMIT THE NUMBER OF MBFR SOURCE DOCUMENTS UNTIL AFTER WE HAVE MORE EXPERIENCE WITH THE CONFIDENCE IN THE MCM-86 AND N-30 DOCUMENTS.

5. COMMENT: WE ARE INCLINED TO AGREE WITH THE WG CHAIRMAN THAT WE SHOULD NOT ATTEMPT TO DELETE ANY OF FIVE SOURCE DOCUMENTS CONTAINED IN REF B AT THIS TIME. NONE OF THE ALLIES WERE IN THE POSITION TO AGREE TO THE FINAL VERSION OF THE N-30 DOCUMENT (REF C) AT THE AUGUST 12 SESSION; IT THUS SEEMS PREMATURE TO ATTEMPT TO LIMIT NATO TO THIS DOCUMENT AND THE MCM-86. IF DEPARTMENT CONCURS, WE WOULD PLAN TO SUGGEST AT SOME FUTURE DATE THAT WE LIMIT THE NUMBER OF DOCUMENTS.
END COMMENT

6. ACTION REQUESTED: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO CONCUR IN REF B.
SECRET

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ALSO REQUEST GUIDANCE ON THE TWO DATA STUDIES NOW BEFORE THE WG (REF C).
STREATOR.

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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